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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of )  
GEORG WEBER ) Examiner: Maurina T. Rachuba  
for: APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING )  
SUBSTANTIALLY PLANE ) Group Art Unit: 3723  
WORKPIECES )  
Serial No.: 10/670,972 )  
Filed: September 25, 2003 ) Our Docket No.: 3887-0005

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 121**

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action Summary, dated December 21, 2004, the Examiner has found five patentably distinct species claimed in the patent application: species 1 – figure 1; species 2 – figure 3; species 3 – figure 4; species 4 – figure 5; and species 5 – figure 6.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Species 4 – Figures 1, 2, 5, 7 and 8, which read upon claims 1, 3, and 5 through 9, with traverse.

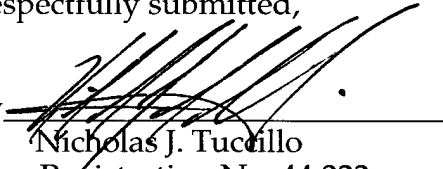
In view of this response and election, Applicants respectfully request examination on the merits.

Should there be any question concerning the election of claims, the Examiner should not hesitate to call the undersigned attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Applicants believe no fee is due for this Response, however, should there be any deficiency in fees associated with the filing of this Response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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